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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. P2989-000908

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of ) MAIL STOP AF  
Jerome R. Bellegarda et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2168  
Application No.: 10/644,815 ) Examiner: Mahesh H. Dwivedi  
Filed: August 21, 2003 ) Confirmation No.: 6190  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR )  
AUTOMATIC FILE CLUSTERING )  
INTO A DATA-DRIVEN, USER )  
SPECIFIC TAXONOMY )

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 21, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims.

Claims 1-11, 13-28 and 30-47 remain pending. Claims 1, 11, 17, 28 and 38 are independent.

**§103 REJECTION - BELLEGARDA, MILLIER**

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-8, 11-16, 17-24, 27-34 and 38-47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Bellegarda et al. (article entitled "Exploiting Latent Semantic Information in Statistical Language Modeling," dated October 26, 2000) in view of Millier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,899,995). See *Final Office Action, items 6-7 on pages 3-26*. Since claims 12 and 29 were canceled in the previous Reply submitted on March 21, 2007, Applicants will treat claims 1-8, 11, 13-16, 17-24, 27-28, 30-34 and 38-47 as being rejected. Applicants respectfully traverse.